

# Life Guards Rescue 8 From Torrance's Surf Sunday

## FIREMAN SEVERELY BURNED

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# HOT? SURE WAS! IT HIT 94

## Mother of Two Tots Dies In Crash; Inquest Slated

### Alden, McNally Due To Return to Court

While waiting for his own trial, Joe Alden, ex-manager of the National Supply Employees' Credit Union, is due to face William McNally in court tomorrow to determine if he can identify McNally as one of the thugs who robbed him of \$30,000 on Apr. 2. Alden is due to appear Friday morning in the Superior Court of Los Angeles to enter a plea on charges that he embezzled \$29,000 from the credit union funds prior to the robbery. He has made several appearances in court during the past week, but each time his trial was continued. He first appeared without an attorney and the court ruled it would not accept his plea without benefit of counsel.

Alden was sent back to jail to reappear on Wednesday with the public defender representing him. However, when he appeared in court yesterday, the court questioned Alden's right to the free legal counsel and sent him back to jail with instructions to get a private attorney.

Meanwhile, Alden and McNally were brought to the South Bay Municipal Court yesterday for McNally's preliminary hearing. The 25-year-old McNally, an ex-convict, is accused of being one of three thugs who robbed Alden of \$30,000 in credit union funds. McNally's attorney was unable to make the hearing so the trial was continued until today at 11 p.m. in the South Bay Court.

### Blazing House Burns Face, Arm Of Fire Captain

Suffering first and second-degree burns on the chin, right shoulder and hand while fighting a house fire Tuesday was Capt. Robert R. Lucas, of the Torrance Fire Department.

Lucas was standing 15 to 20 feet away from the blazing home of Fred Wertella Sr. at 2321 W. 233rd St. Tuesday afternoon when a surge of the intense heat burned him, about the face and right arm.

Dr. Ralph McNeil, who treated the fire captain for the injuries, said the burns were not serious and that Lucas would be able to return to limited duty next week.

The small home of Wertella was completely destroyed by the fire. Chief J. J. Benner, who led a company of firemen at the blaze, said the cause of the fire had not been determined. Several possible sources of the blaze existed, he said. The building was insured for \$200.

The fire occurred at 1 p.m. Tuesday, at the peak of the day's record-breaking temperature of 94 degrees.

Earlier in the day, firemen had responded to two grass fires which had started on Sepulveda Blvd. and in Walteria.

### Chief to File Battery Charge Against Flyer

Police Chief John Stroh indicated yesterday afternoon that he would seek an assault and battery complaint against a 35-year-old mechanic, Kenzie Kencade, who threatened to crash his airplane into a Torrance cocktail lounge where his wife was employed after he served him with divorce papers.

Kencade also threatened to kill his wife, Mrs. Ethel Kencade, of 3208 Cricklewood Ave., her attorney Albert Isen, and the proprietor of the Half Way House, Leo Grendeler.

### GP Not Hit Hard By New Pollution Law

Modification on three gasoline tanks of General Petroleum's tank farm here will be all that is required to bring the local refinery facilities up to the standards of a recently passed county air pollution law, company officials said this week.

The law requires all containers having a capacity in excess of 40,000 gallons and used to store gasoline or other petroleum distillates to be equipped with either a floating roof or a vapor recovery system.

"We have for some time stored all of our gasoline and petroleum distillates in floating roof tanks which prevents the loss of vapor to the atmosphere," said the company spokesman.

"This practice not only minimizes air pollution, but it is good conservation as well," he claims. "All of our refinery operations are carried out to more than meet the minimum requirements of the authorities

### GP Not Hit Hard By New Pollution Law

and to avoid discomfort to our neighbors in the community."

Affects 495 Tanks

The new ruling, drawn up by the Air Pollution Control Committee which includes Torrance Councilman Willys Blount, affects approximately 495 tanks in the county.

A 24-month schedule has been adopted for completion of the program, which is expected to cost industry an estimated seven to eight million dollars. Nine months is allowed for control of the most potent vapors, six months more for the next most potent, an additional six months for the less potent, and three months more for all of the others.

Adopted Unanimously

The County Board of Supervisors passed the regulation, entitled Rule 56, unanimously, following an address by District Director Gordon P. Larson.

Larson told the Board that analysis of the atmosphere and



DEATH OAR . . . Mrs. Joanne Flynn, mother of two children and expecting a third, was riding in the car on the right (above) when the other car, driven by Richard Lenk,

screamed around a corner and smashed head-on into the Flynn vehicle, killing Mrs. Flynn, and injuring five others. Redondo Beach Police Dept. Photo



### 24-YEAR-OLD MRS. JOANNE FLYNN

#### Crash Kills Mother of Two and Unborn Child

## Hold Inquest Today In Death of Mother

A coroner's inquest will be held at 9:30 this morning at Stone and Myers Mortuary to determine the responsibility of a Hawthorne driver whose car smashed head-on into another car early Sunday killing an attractive 24-year-old Hollywood Riviera mother and her unborn child.

### City Swelters Under Highest Mark of Year

Torrance's official thermometer atop the Fire Station soared to a stifling 94 degrees here Tuesday to set a new high mark for 1953. It was 89 yesterday.

The high temperature, which was accompanied by a dangerously low humidity, surpassed Monday's high of 89, according to Fire Department records. The previous high this year was in January when the thermometers rose to 84 degrees.

Water Superintendent Angus McVicar reported that the heavy demands for water during the first three days of the week really taxed the facilities of the city's present system.

"When we get this new water system into operation," he said, "we will have no trouble in keeping the city supplied with water."

Pressures in parts of West Torrance were so low at times that water was cut off until auxiliary pumping could be arranged.

The expectant mother, Mrs. Joanne T. Flynn, 355 Calle de Andalucia, died at Harbor General Hospital five hours after the accident, in which she suffered a basal skull fracture. She was the mother of two small children, John, 2, and Patrick, 1-year-old. "Fields" on suspicion of drunk driving and manslaughter was Richard George Lenk, 21, of 13905 Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, driver of the other vehicle. He received multiple lacerations in the crash and a companion riding in his car, Jack D. Smelser, 23, of Gardena, also sustained minor injuries.

Others injured in the collision were Mrs. Flynn's husband, John D. Flynn Jr., 27, the driver, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Underwood, Hollywood Riviera, who were also riding in the Flynn car.

Underwood told police that the Flynn vehicle was preparing to make a boulevard stop, traveling about 15 miles per hour, when he saw the other car bearing down on them in the wrong lane. He shouted to Flynn, but it was too late to avoid the crash, he said.

A witness told police he saw Lenk's car coming at a high rate of speed, and heard its tires squeal around the wide turn at So. Catalina Ave. and So. Elena Ave., the intersection where the accident took place. The witness stated that the momentum apparently carried Lenk's car over the double white line and into the path of Flynn's car.

Lenk and his companion, both admitted to Redondo police that they had been drinking at a reception just prior to the crash. A skid mark left by his car extended 112 feet around the corner, according to police reports.

The Flynn had moved into a new home in Hollywood Riviera two weeks ago. They formerly lived in the Palos Verdes Apartments. A Requiem High funeral Mass was celebrated yesterday for Mrs. Flynn and her unborn baby at Nativity Church, and interment followed at Holy Cross cemetery. The Mass was said by Father P. J. McGuinness. A rosary was held Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock in Stone and Myers Chapel.

She survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tourtelot, of Rolling Hills; two brothers, Robert, a student at Santa Clara University, and Richard, a student at Malaga Cove grammar school; and a sister, Betty Cross-wend, of Sepulveda Gardens. Flynn's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Flynn, have flown to pay their home in Chicago to pay their last respects to their daughter-in-law. Flynn is employed by the Richfield Oil Co.

### Water Office to Stay Open During Noon Hour

The Water office, at 1510 Craven Ave., will remain open during the noon hour Monday through Friday to enable subscribers to pay their water bills, according to Assistant City Engineer.

### Grand Total Now 21 Rescued Since Jan. 1 By Guards

Eight early season swimmers were rescued Sunday by life guards at Torrance Beach as the first "beach weather" of 1953 brought swarms of water lovers to the local stretch of sand and surf.

The eight hauled in Sunday brings to 21 the number of persons pulled from the surf by county guards on duty since Jan. 1 at the new life guard station at Torrance Beach, according to Life Guard Bill Noonan.

Pulled from the surf Sunday were Bill Bryant, 38; Frances Porter, 17, of Hollywood Riviera; Nicky Rey, 6, Compton; Larry Lancetas, 9, Harbor Hills; Gary Messner, 10, Gardena; Harold Anderson, 10, Harbor City; James Noor, 9, Gardena; and one unidentified bather.

Greater throngs of beachgoers are expected to visit the local beach this season, now that the recently-completed guard station is in operation. The station, located approximately midway between the Hollywood Riviera Beach Club and the Palos Verdes-Torrance City boundary, is equipped with a first-aid room, restrooms, and an outdoor fresh water shower.

Soon to be completed is a project involving the black-topping of four lots for parking on the top of the bluff. The county plans also to construct a driveway down to the beach level so that drivers may unload and load at the bottom of the bluff. No parking will be allowed at the beach level, however.



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Robinson, 22823 Pennsylvania Ave., were evicted from their home Tuesday. By a swarm of bees.



LOOKING FOR TROUBLE . . . One of the few guys in this world who gets paid for looking for trouble is Life Guard Elad Miller, who watches over the waters of Torrance Beach for bathers in difficulty. Miller's headquarters is the recently-completed life-guard and first-aid station which is in communication with the County Life Guard Headquarters in Hermosa Beach. Eight persons were pulled from the waters of Torrance Beach on Sunday.